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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/715,740
Filing Date	11/18/2003
First Named Inventor	Hiroshi Hashimoto et al.
Art Unit	3682
Examiner Name	V. Johnson
Attorney Docket Number	TWA93USA

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ²Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ⁴Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁷Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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Customer No. 00270

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/715740
Applicant: H. Hashimoto et al.
Filed: 11/18/2003
TC/A.U.: 3682
Examiner: V. Johnson
Docket No.: TWA93USA
Customer No. 00270

Confirmation No: 4386

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)(1)(ii)
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Signed: 
Date: February 15, 2006

AMENDMENT

Sir:

This is in response to the Official action of January 9, 2006.

If an extension is required to avoid abandonment of the application, and no separate request for extension accompanies this response, please grant the necessary extension of time, and charge the extension fee to Howson and Howson's deposit account 08-3040.

Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the drawings begin on page 2.

Amendments to the claims are in the listing of claims which begins on page 3.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6.

Application No.: 10/715740
Amendment dated: February 15, 2006
Reply to Office action of January 9, 2006

Respectfully submitted,
HOWSON & HOWSON

By



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Enclosures:

2 replacement sheets

2 annotated sheets

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U.S. 6,244,981

Form SB/08A

Bibliographic data and abstracts